

Message Text

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EA - MR. EDMOND
----- 029848
R 172341Z AUG 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

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STADIS/////////////////////////////////
EA ONLY; FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY HUMMEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, RP

SUBJECT: P.L.-480 TITLE I PROGRAM FOR FY 1977

REFS: (1) MANILA 12256 (2) ZIMMERLY-SULLIVAN MEMO OF
AUGUST 5, 1976

1. WE WERE TAKEN ABACK TO READ IN THE REFERENCED
DOCUMENTS THAT YOU FEEL THERE MAY NOT BE FULL SUPPORT
WITHIN THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE P.L.-480 TITLE I
PROGRAM PROPOSED FOR FY 1977. NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER
FROM THE TRUTH. BOTH THE EB AND EA BUREAUS HAVE CON-
SISTENTLY SUPPORTED THIS PROGRAM AND HAVE WORKED CLOSELY
WITH A.I.D. ON A JOINT STRATEGY IN PUSHING FORWARD ON
THE MATTER WITHIN THE ISC. ACCOUNT OF ISC MEETING
MENTIONED IN THE AUGUST 5 MEMORANDUM IS, WE ARE TOLD BY
THOSE WHO ATTENDED (REGIONAL BUREAUS SUCH AS EA DO NOT
SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO ISC MEETINGS) WHOLLY INACCURATE.
RATHER IT HAS BEEN EB WHICH TOGETHER WITH A.I.D. HAS
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PUSHED FOR DISCUSSION OF PHILIPPINE PROGRAM WITHIN THE

ISC IN FACE OF LACK OF INTEREST BY BOTH TREASURY AND OMB. MOST RECENT EFFORT WAS ISC MEETING AUGUST 12 WHERE TREASURY AND OMB FLATLY STATED THEIR GENERAL OPPOSITION TO A PHILIPPINE PROGRAM, WITHOUT, HOWEVER, GOING INTO

DETAIL. WE ARE NOW GOING BACK TO THESE AGENCIES ASKING THEM FOR THEIR SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS IN ORDER TO MOST EFFECTIVELY REBUT THEM. STATE (BOTH EB AND EA) AND A.I.D. HAVE ALSO WORKED IN SPITE OF INCREASED BUDGETARY PRESSURE, MOVEMENT OF PHILIPPINES INTO ABOVE 300 DOLLAR PER CAPITA INCOME CATEGORY (WHICH WILL BE SUBJECT OF A SEPARATE CABLE), AND TIGHT SUPPLY SITUATION OF SOME COMMODITIES, TO MAINTAIN PROPOSED P.L.-480 PROGRAM AT A LEVEL WHICH WOULD KEEP OVERALL U.S.-PHILIPPINE BILATERAL ASSISTANCE CONSTANT FROM FY 76 TO FY 77. FINAL WORLDWIDE FIGURES FOR FY 77 (FYI: IN WHICH PHILIPPINES LISTED AT 12 MILLION DOLLARS) ARE NOW AWAITING SECRETARY'S APPROVAL AFTER WHICH WE PLAN TO PRESS AGAIN IN ISC AND IF NECESSARY AT HIGHER LEVELS FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF THE PHILIPPINE PROGRAM.

2. REF 2 HAS ALSO BEEN DISCUSSED WITH EB AND A.I.D. WHO ARE IN ACCORD WITH THIS MESSAGE.

3. YOUR EARLIER MESSAGES CONCERNING THE ECONOMIC JUSTIFICATIONS FOR THE PROGRAM HAVE PROVEN USEFUL IN COUNTERING TREASURY AND OMB ARGUMENTS, BUT WE MAY BE REQUESTING FURTHER INPUTS FROM YOU AS SOON AS WE ARE ABLE TO PIN DOWN THE DETAILS OF TREASURY'S AND OMB'S OBJECTIONS. KISSINGER

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